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-- 65. A method according to claim 56, wherein the control device is a personal computer, a word processor or a work station. --.

-- 66. A control device for controlling a device via a network, comprising:
a communication interface adapted to receive a description file including description data for a control panel of the device; and
a controller adapted to display the control panel on a display device after an icon representing the device is selected by a user,

wherein the control device transmits a message corresponding to a graphical element of the control panel to the device when the graphical element is operated by user. --.

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end

-- 67. A method for operating a control device, which controls a device via a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a description file including description data for a control panel of the device;

displaying the control panel on a display device after an icon representing the device is selected by a user; and

transmitting a message corresponding to a graphical element of the control panel to the device when the graphical element is operated by user. --.

REMARKS

A "Request For Extension Of Time" for extending the due date for responding to the Office Action by three months and a credit card form (PTO-1038) for payment of the fee (\$890) is submitted along with this Amendment. Authorization is also granted to charge our deposit

account no. 18-1644 for any other fees necessary to enter this Amendment.

Claims 26-32 and 34-46 have been canceled. Claim 33 has been amended. Claims 47-67, including independent claims 56, 66 and 67, have been added. A marked-up version of the amendments to these claims along with submission of the additional claims is submitted as "Attachment A - Marked-Up Version of Claim Amendments and Submission of Additional Claims." An additional claim fee paper is submitted along with this Amendment and the appropriate charges for these additional claims are paid by submission of a completed credit card form.

The Examiner has rejected applicants' independent claim 33 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Bond et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,119,489. This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Independent claim 33, as amended, recites a communication interface adapted to receive a description file including description data for a control panel of a control device. Claim 33, as amended, also recites a controller adapted to automatically activate the description file, if the description file is received. It is submitted that the Bond et al. patent fails to disclose or suggest such claimed content.

Rather the Bond et al. patent discloses a computing system for testing remote units and/or subassemblies without relying on a central controller. In the Office Action, the Examiner states that the Bond et al. patent also discloses decision means for determining whether program data has been received via the network and activating means for automatically activating a program based on the program data if decision means determines that program data has been received. (col. 2, line 54-col. 3, line 9; col. 6, lines 27-45; col. 8, line 24-col. 9, line 32). The Bond et al.

patent, however, does not disclose or suggest a communication interface of the present invention as claimed. Specifically, Bond et al. do not disclose or suggest a communication interface that can receive a description file including description data for a control panel of the control device, nor does it disclose or suggest a controller adapted to automatically activate the description file, if the description file is received. The Bond et al. patent rather discloses a computing system categorized into a hierarchical structure so that the operability of the system can be tested and reported to a user or operator (col. 1, lines 62-68 of Bond et al.). Such does not disclose or suggest the control device, as claimed in independent claim 33 or the corresponding method, as claimed in independent claim 56. Accordingly, it is submitted that these claims are patentable based upon the Bond et al. patent not disclosing or suggesting the content therein.

Added independent claims 66 and 67 also recite a communication interface adapted to receive a description file including description data for a control panel of the device, and further recite that a message corresponding to a graphical element of the control panel is transmitted to the control device when the graphical element is operated by the user. Based upon the above, independent claims 66 and 67 are also submitted as being patentable.

Based upon the patentability of the independent claims, the dependent claims are also submitted as being patentable for at least the same reasons, and because they differ in scope from the parent independent claims.

If the Examiner believes that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application, a request is made that the Examiner telephone applicants' counsel at (212) 682-9640.

Dated: July 30, 2001

ROBIN, BLECKER & DALEY
330 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Marylee Jenkins", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marylee Jenkins
Reg. No. 37,645
Attorney of Record

ATTACHMENT A - MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS AND
SUBMISSION OF ADDITIONAL CLAIMS

This is an attachment showing the marked-up version of the claim amendments submitted in the Amendment in Response to Office Action dated July 27, 2001.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 26-32 and 34-46.

Please amend claim 33 as follows:

33. (Amended) A control [apparatus suitable for use in a system in which a plurality of devices can communicate data to each other] device for controlling a device via a network, comprising:

a communication interface adapted to receive a description file including description data for a control panel of the device [decision means for determining whether a program data has been received via the network]; and

a controller adapted to automatically activate the description file, if the description file is received [activating means for automatically activating a program based on the program data if said decision means determines that the program data has been received].

Please enter the following additional claims.

-- 47. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the control panel includes graphical elements for controlling functions of the device. --.

-- 48. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the communication interface receives the description file, after the control device detects that the device is connected to the

network. --.

-- 49. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the controller displays an icon representing the device on a display device after the description file is automatically activated. -

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-- 50. A control device according to claim 49, wherein the controller displays the control panel on the display device after the icon is selected by a user. --.

-- 51. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the control device transmits a message corresponding to a graphical element of the control panel to the device when the graphical element is operated by user. --.

-- 52. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the device is represented as an object by a predetermined object oriented technique. --.

-- 53. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the device is a CD player, a digital video recorder, a digital camera or a digital television. --.

-- 54. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the device is a facsimile, a copying machine or a printer. --.

-- 55. A control device according to claim 33, wherein the control device is a personal computer, a word processor or a work station. --.

-- 56. A method for operating a control device, which controls a device via a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a description file including description data for a control panel of the device; and

automatically activating the description file, if the description file is received. --.

- 57. A method according to claim 56, wherein the control panel includes graphical elements for controlling functions of the device. --.
- 58. A method according to claim 56, wherein the receiving step receives the description file, after the control device detects that the device is connected to the network. --.
- 59. A method according to claim 56, wherein the controlling step displays an icon representing the device on a display device after the description file is automatically activated. -
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- 60. A method according to claim 59, wherein the controlling step displays the control panel on the display device after the icon is selected by a user. --.
- 61. A method according to claim 56, wherein the control device transmits a message corresponding to a graphical element of the control panel to the device when the graphical element is operated by user. --.
- 62. A method according to claim 56, wherein the device is represented as an object by a predetermined object oriented technique. --.
- 63. A method according to claim 56, wherein the device is a CD player, a digital video recorder, a digital camera or a digital television. --.
- 64. A method according to claim 56, wherein the device is a facsimile, a copying machine or a printer. --.
- 65. A method according to claim 56, wherein the control device is a personal computer, a word processor or a work station. --.
- 66. A control device for controlling a device via a network, comprising:
a communication interface adapted to receive a description file including

description data for a control panel of the device; and

a controller adapted to display the control panel on a display device after an icon representing the device is selected by a user,

wherein the control device transmits a message corresponding to a graphical element of the control panel to the device when the graphical element is operated by user. --.

-- 67. A method for operating a control device, which controls a device via a network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a description file including description data for a control panel of the device;

displaying the control panel on a display device after an icon representing the device is selected by a user; and

transmitting a message corresponding to a graphical element of the control panel to the device when the graphical element is operated by user. --.